

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**Telecommunications Division
Carrier Branch**

RESOLUTION T-17045

R E S O L U T I O N

Resolution T-17045, AT&T California (U-1001-C) Requests Authority to Revise Schedule Cal. P.U.C. Nos. A2 and 175-T To Grandfather SONET Ring and Access Service For Which Equipment Has Been Discontinued By The Manufacturer And Replacement Parts Are No Longer Available.

By Advice Letter No. 28460 Filed May 31, 2006.

Summary

This Executive Director Action Resolution authorizes AT&T California (AT&T) to revise Schedule Cal. P.U.C. Nos. A2 and 175-T, to grandfather SONET Ring and Access Service for which equipment to provision the service has been discontinued by the manufacturer and similar service is provided with more modern equipment.

Background

SONET Ring and Access Service (SRAS) was introduced by Advice letter (AL) 18211 effective on June 10, 1996. SONET Ring and Access service provides dedicated bandwidth capacity over the following configurations: (1) a self-healing ring for a single customer between customer premises nodes and central office nodes for the purpose of transporting data over a dedicated network offered as OC-3, OC-12 and OC-48, and (2) a point-to-point circuit service at bit rates of 155 (OC-3) and 622 Mbps (OC-12).

This service was established with first-generation equipment. The equipment vendor, Nortel Networks, has notified its customers that the first-generation equipment has been discontinued.

AT&T requests a resolution approving the grandfathering of SRAS to be effective June 30, 2006.

Notice/Protest

Notice of AL No. 28460 was published in the Commission Daily Calendar of June 2, 2006. AT&T states that copies of AL No. 28460 have been mailed to interested utilities and/or parties. No protest to this AL has been received.

Discussion

Telecommunications Division (TD) has reviewed AT&T AL No. 28460 and its notifications sent to the SRAS customers. TD concludes that SRAS customers have been informed of the proposed grandfathering of SRAS by AT&T.

Resolution No. T-9598, dated March 22, 1977, authorizes the Executive Director to grant requests to freeze or limit (grandfather) Communications Utility Services of equipment that has been discontinued by the manufacturer.

AT&T has two services that provide better capabilities for customers. The new SONET service provides enhanced SONET Ring Service with additional capabilities and speeds using next generation (NG) equipment. The NG equipment provides service with reduced transport costs, dedicated capacity available for future growth, better flexibility, improved scalability, additional interfaces and interoperability with other services. The NG equipment also uses less power and takes less space.

Customers desiring point to point access service would have to purchase Optical Carrier Network (OCN) point to point service. OCN would replace the point to point access part of SRAS. These replacement services provide more flexible capabilities to new customers. Existing customers can continue with their current service under the terms of the grandfathering. Therefore, AT&T's request for authority to revise Schedule Cal. P.U.C. Nos. A2 and 175-T to grandfather SRAS is reasonable. TD recommends that the Commission approve this filing.

Commission approval is based on the specifics of the Advice Letter and does not establish a precedent for the contents of future filings or for Commission approval of similar requests.

Findings

1. AT&T requests authority to revise schedule Cal. P.U.C. Nos. A2 and 175-T, to grandfather SRAS for which equipment is manufacturer discontinued and replacement parts are no longer available.
2. AT&T had notified its SRAS customers about the grandfathering of SRAS.

3. No protest to the AL have been received.
4. After reviewing AL No. 28460, TD recommends that the Commission approve this filing.
5. Pursuant to the authority granted the Executive Director in Resolution No. T-9598, AT&T's request for authority to revise Schedule Cal. P.U.C. Nos. A2 and 175-T to grandfather SRAS, for which equipment is manufacturer discontinued and replacement parts are no longer available, is just and reasonable and should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

1. AT&T California is granted authority to revise Schedule Cal. P.U.C. Nos. A2 and 175-T, to grandfather SONET Ring and Access Service.
2. AL No. 28460 of AT&T California and accompanying tariff sheets shall be marked to show that they were authorized by California Public Utilities Commission Resolution No. T-17045 and its effective date of June 30, 2006.
3. SONET Ring and Access Service be grandfathered effective June 30, 2006.

This Resolution is effective today.

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by Executive Action Resolution on June 23, 2006.

/s/ STEVE LARSON

STEVE LARSON
Executive Director